

# THE CHAMPION

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## WASHINGTON NEWS

### OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT FROM NATIONS CAPITAL.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 1, 1906.

The last session of the Fifty-ninth Congress will have convened by the time this letter is in print and in spite of the predictions that it will do nothing but pass appropriation bills there is a strong probability that the session will be one of interest and will perhaps be a continuation of the strenuous legislation of the first session. The Ship Subsidy bill which has been up in several recent congresses only to be consigned to the grave of a committee, has a fair chance of being passed, there is a strong public sentiment even in the interior states and far removed from either the Pacific, Atlantic or Gulf littorals in favor of restoring sea supremacy to the United States. The reason behind this sentiment is not merely the promotion of American trade but a desire to ensure American seaman in order that we may have in time of war that indispensable source of recruits to our war vessels which has always given England her supremacy on water and has recently enabled Japan to win the most brilliant naval victories since the days of Nelson. Secretaries Root and Shaw did not give prominence to this phase of the question in their recent speeches. Their idea was for a wider commerce on American bottoms but the menace of war cloud already bigger than a man's hand in the east is sufficient to make it prudent to man our ships and to have a reserve such as can only be maintained in modern times through an extensive subsidized merchant marine.

The Post Office Department of the United States under the management of the present Postmaster General Cortelyou is probably better conducted than it has ever been in recent times. More irregularities within the department have been exposed and more frauds using the mails as an auxiliary have been exposed than in any recent or perhaps than in any previous administration. Nevertheless the Post Office Department of the United States like every other Department of the government is loaded down with useless live as well as useless dead material, the establishment costs much more than is necessary and the people of the United States do not use the Post Office to a greater extent per capita than any other people in the world have to pay as much for the service as they ought to be required to pay. Mr. Boyce, the great publisher of Chicago, has emphasized these undisputed facts by proposing to take over the entire postal service of the United States and conduct it at one-half the amount that it is now costing the people, thus saving the country probably from fifty to twenty millions a year. But this is not the only advantage that he and the powerful syndicate back of him holds out. He proposes to reduce postage for letters to one cent and to reduce the other three cents of postage for mail matter to an equal ratio. There is not the least doubt that it can be done with profit to the contractors, and there is just as little doubt

that every other department of the government except perhaps the military and naval departments could under private management be made much more efficient and much less expensive.

The Government Printing Office, that mammoth asylum for pampered political printers, has been in a state of turmoil all summer. Few people in the United States know how huge and corrupt this excrescence has grown to be. If its nearly three thousand employees were polled and required to say what they thought the object of the Government Printing Office was an overwhelming majority of them would answer "to furnish salaries and places to the favored and elect of the printing profession" namely themselves. It has been so long run as a kind of eelmosynary institution that when President Roosevelt appointed a real business like, practical printer as its manager the effect was like an explosive or a ferment and the office has been in a seething condition ever since. Printers from the outside and from the inside have used every variety of persuasion and threat with the new Public Printer. The papers of Washington have taken the part of the great mass of spoiled and unruly employees because it is the popular side and because the papers depend in great part upon these people, their cousins, sisters and aunts for patronage, but, although the new man Public Printer Stillings has been in charge only ten months and working under great disadvantage it is known that he has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars and how he has done it will soon appear in a report now ready for congress.

The president is back from the Panama Canal and is literally in the saddle just as much so when he sits at the council table surrounded by his cabinet as when he rides in the park. As I have said political wise acres predict a dull and formal session with no legislation to speak of outside the appropriation bills. Congress doubtless expects to do nothing much beyond this indispensable legislation but there is a personage in the White House when he is not everywhere else, who has little reverence for precedent and not the slightest fear of innovation. It would be just like him to ask congress to do several other things and recently congress has gotten in the way of doing what he asks not altogether because he asks it but because it is known that an unprecedented majority of the people are at his virile back and elbow. Therefore it is possible that since he has recently again and again asserted that he will not have a third term he may try to make congress work eight hours a day or over time during his present term and enact that legislation with regard to Santo Domingo, the Philippines, the inheritance tax, the Panama Canal, an elastic currency, for which he has stood as representing the intelligence and aspiration of the people of the United States.

#### Notice.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Arcadia will be held in the banking rooms at 3 p. m. Tuesday, January 8, 1907.  
C. C. CHOLLAR, Cashier.

## BUSY BROWNVILLE

### NEWSY NEWS NOTES FROM OUR NEARBY NEIGHBOR.

Rev. Bingham, the presiding elder, was with us last week.

Next Sunday Rev. Jas. H. Owen will finish this years work at this place. Owing to the unwillingness of some of the citizens of Brownville the outlook now is we will not have a married minister next year as there has been no arrangements made for a parsonage. The community will feel this as the presence of a minister with a family helps any community.

Williams & Roberts have finished putting up their fruit and have moved to Gardner.

Ideal weather for gathering oranges but terribly dry. Gardens and young groves are suffering. Nine weeks today since we had rain sufficient to wet the ground.

Col. J. L. Hollingsworth, of Jacksonville, who has been quite unwell all the summer is spending a while with her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hollingsworth. We hope he will soon recover.

More marriages and births expected around Brownville than in many years before. We are a progressive people with no place for lagards.

G. S. Daniels has changed his place of business. He is now with L. J. Register & Co. We are glad we did not lose him and his estimable lady.

The indications are that the orange buyers will get all the fruit off from the vicinity of Brownville by Xmas.

Quite a crowd, headed by Finis Williams, are preparing to go out to the sand hills for a hunt.

The prospecting corps of the P. R. P. M. Co., about thirty-five men in number, under the leadership of Mr. Allen, are camped with us. The indications are that the company will put in a hoyst at the mouth of Mares' Branch. This will help Brownville as it means an addition of at least 100 to our community.

We understand that Prof. W. J. Odom has gone to his old home in South Carolina to see his father who is dangerously ill.

Bertie Williams, who is teaching at Buckingham, Lee county, made the home folks a visit Thanksgiving. We are always glad to see her.

Sam Swindall is running his irrigating plant and his garden is the finest in the neighborhood and his orange trees show the good effects. There is nothing like water for Florida soil.

#### MUD SPLASHER.

#### Echoes from the Fair.

A State Fair is an excellent place to find old time friends and lose the home folks. For many a weary hour may be spent hunting among the crowds for some member of your party and many an unexpected encounter of old friends brightens the way.

Among the old friends we met, who will always be pleasantly remembered by Arcadians was Prof. E. F. Wilson, wife and son, who are now located permanently at Palmetto, Manatee county. It is no longer Professor Wilson, how-

ever but Attorney Wilson, for it is now some years since the Professor gave up school teaching with some anxiety, lest he find law as a profession, a starve to death way of earning one's living. He has now, however, found that the change was a profitable one, giving him a permanent home and better income than teaching. Mrs. Wilson staid at the fair during the entire two weeks having a position in the Woman's Work department of Manatee county. One of the most elaborate pieces of fancy work exhibited at the fair was an elegant satin lined lace opera cloak, the work of her hands, that she offered for sale at \$100, and considering the work on it the price was low. Young Master Wilson is a sturdy youngster, and with his father spent a day or two at the fair.

Prof. P. W. Corr was another, one of Arcadia's former citizens whom we were pleased to meet. The Professor has charge of the Jasper Normal this year and was down to Tampa on a visit to his wife who still remains at Port Tampa City. He speaks in high terms of the city of Jasper, and seems prosperous and happy.

Professor Rickards and Miss Callie were also visiting the fair. They have been for some years at home at Riverview, a suburb of Tampa, and the Professor says he is still teaching. Both himself and daughter look as if the profession agreed with them financially and physically.

#### The President's Message.

The President's Message to the Fifty-Ninth Congress has been thus epitomized by the Times-Union:

"Interspersed with a lot of preaching, all of which is sound in doctrine, the president in his message makes the following recommendations as to legislation: A law prohibiting corporations from contributing to campaign funds;

Permitting the government to appeal in criminal prosecution from adverse decision of court on point of law;

Limiting hours of labor of railroad employees;

Forbidding or regulating the labor of children in the territories and the District of Columbia;

Authorizing the withdrawal of coal lands from entry;

Graduated inheritance, and if legal, graduated income tax;

Constitutional amendment, transferring to the federal government the regulation of questions of marriage and divorce;

Passage of ship subsidy bill, now before congress;

Passage of bill intended to give greater elasticity to the currency; Philippine tariff bill;

Granting of citizenship to the Porto Ricans;

Providing for the naturalization of Japanese;

Passage of bill enabling the president to enforce treaty rights of aliens;

Appropriations which will replace vessels of the navy as they become obsolete and keep the navy up to its present strength."

Dr. C. H. Smith, C. S. Bushnell and C. M. Johnson are part of a surveying party now out at the lakes east of Arcadia in the interest of the new electric railway company.

## DeSOTOS PREMIUMS

### AT THE STATE FAIR THIS YEAR. A GOOD SHOWING.

The State Fair at Tampa is over and the awards of premiums made. For grand champion county premium, Alachua and Polk tied, their percent out of a possible 100 points being each 84.6. Manatee came closely behind, while Orange, Hernando, Osceola, Pasco, Washington, Lee and DeSoto came in the order named. DeSoto making the lowest percent given, altho other counties not named were also there and if they had entered for this premium would have fallen below DeSoto. DeSoto carried away over \$380 in premiums, taking the first prize on largest and best display of pineapples, \$200.

The other prizes that DeSoto took were by J. M. Weeks, best display of pineapples, diploma and \$100. Newsome Corbett, best one dozen stalks sugar cane, \$5. J. M. Weeks, best dozen pineapples shedded, \$5. J. M. Weeks, largest dozen pineapples, \$5. J. M. Weeks, best specimen of pineapple in fruit, \$5. Wm. Crouch, best six geraniums in bloom, \$3. Wm. Crouch, best vase of chrysanthemums of not less than 50 blooms, \$10. Wm. Crouch, best 6 white chrysanthemums, \$3. Wm. Crouch, best six yellow chrysanthemums, \$3. Wm. Crouch, best six pink chrysanthemums, \$3. Wm. Crouch, best and largest vase of long stemmed roses, \$10. Wm. Crouch, best six of any color chrysanthemums, \$3. Wm. Crouch, best 12 hybrid roses, \$3. Wm. Crouch, best 25 carnations, \$2.

#### B. Y. P. U. Social.

Program of the Baptist Young People's Union Social to be held at the residence of Rev. B. P. Robertson, on the evening of Thursday, December 13th. Author for study, Tennyson.

Current Events.....  
David Scott  
Piano Solo, Selected.....  
Miss Pearl Johnson  
Reading, Selection from Tennyson.....  
Mr. Webb  
Vocal Solo, Selected.....  
Miss Alberta Whidden  
Reading, Selection from Tennyson.....  
Miss Percie Fuls  
Violin Solo, Selected.....  
Edmund Scott and Miss Holmer  
Life of Tennyson.....  
Miss Taylor  
Violin Solo.....  
Miss Kate Carlton and Mr. Edmond Scott  
Quotations from Tennyson by those present.  
Vocal Duet.....  
Mamie Simmons and Claudia Carlton

The Peace River Baptist Association is being held in Arcadia this week. The introductory sermon was preached Tuesday night by Rev. J. R. Tatum, of Wauchula. Business sessions occupied the day services and preaching at night. Rev. Leitner, of Bartow, preached Wednesday night to a crowded house, and Rev. Crosby, of Wauchula, is to preach tonight. A large delegation from Lee and DeSoto counties is in attendance. The meeting will continue until Friday.

Both the County Commissioners and School Boards held their monthly sessions this week. We will give reports next.